

The Journal and Courier

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THE OLDEST DAILY PAPER PUBLISHED IN CONNECTICUT.

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There will be bicycles enough by and by, and they will be cheaper. A collection of the names of various wheels is to be made by the Referee of Chicago.

So far 759 different wheels have been reported, and there are evidently a large number not mentioned in the list so far.

General Annenkov, a Russian geographer, is preparing an atlas on a new principle. The places on the maps will be put down not according to actual distance from a standard point, but according to the cost of transportation. New York, for instance, will be nearer to London than Rochester in Kent, as it costs less to ship food across the Atlantic than to send it twenty-eight miles by rail to London.

The Prince of Wales is not like some Englishmen and some imitations of them. At the Marlborough club one evening an intimate friend of the prince asked him how he liked the idea of having relatives in business—an allusion to the two brothers of the Marquis of Lorne, one of whom is a stock dealer, while the other is in the tea trade. "If would have me," answered H. R. H., mentioning a shopkeeper on a huge scale, "I would go into partnership with him myself to-morrow."

A Scotchman with a curious claim to distinction has just died in Edinburgh. His name was William Cairns, and he had read through every line of the twenty-four thick volumes of the "Encyclopaedia Britannica." He was a brother of the late Principal Cairns, head of the United Presbyterian College of Scotland, and after devoting the best years of his life to teaching he settled down in Edinburgh with his brother, and found congenial work in preparing an index for the "Britannica." This necessitated reading every line in that ponderous work.

New York is proud in the possession of the largest mirror in the world, which is soon to be set up in the new dining-room of the Hotel Savoy, at a cost of \$5,000 for the glass and \$500 for its carriage, only two steamships on the ocean, one of them the Freisland, in which it came, having room in their holds to stow away so large a package. It is a little more than thirteen feet square, and is nearly half an inch thick. To get this perfect plate five different glasses had to be cast. It was made at the St. Gaudin glass works, in Paris, the oldest plate-glass factory in the world, and is so far its chef d'oeuvre in that direction.

They are getting down on the trolley in Chicago, and there appears to be some reason for it. It is said that forty-six persons have been killed and 336 seriously injured by the trolley wires since their introduction into the city eighteen months ago. The chief of the fire department says these wires greatly interfere with the lifting of the ladders at fires and endanger the lives of these men, as is shown by specified cases. The city electrician calls the overhead trolley a "prostitution of electrical science," and declares that only the extra cost of \$5,000 a mile stands in the way of substituting the underground conduit system.

The latest story of a wondrous gold find in Alaska is of a lake whose bed is literally paved deep with gold dust as ponds are floored with mud. Hans Christian Pande, an old sea captain, told the story of his find on his arrival in Seattle a few days ago. The lake is 1,000 yards long, 400 yards wide, and 150 feet deep. It is fed by water from a glacier, and its only outlet is a little stream two feet deep, but of incredible swiftness. According to Mr. Pande's theory, based on assays of some sand from the shores and bottom of the lake, the glacier has for centuries been bringing down gold from the mountains and depositing it in the cup-like basin of the lake. The assay showed \$3 to \$10 a cubic yard, and on this basis a man could alone take out \$10,000 a year. Mr. Pande proposes to blast out the side of the lake, drain off the water, and dredge out his gold.

The trial of the cruiser Buenos Ayres, built in England for the Argentine Republic, shows that speedier vessels are being constructed on the other side of the Atlantic than here. This ship in a run of six hours kept up an average speed of 23.202 knots, with only about two-thirds the power required to drive the Minneapolis 23.073 knots. She is ten feet narrower and built upon a model which goes through the water like a fish. It is claimed that in making her long and narrow her fighting qualities have not been impaired. In fact it is alleged that she will carry in her primary battery twice as many guns as the largest American cruisers, and a third more in her secondary equipment. Her guaranteed horse power is 17,000 to the Minneapolis 21,000, and in making her trial run she used only 14,000 units of her guarantee, while the American ship used 20,366 units of her power.

YESTERDAY'S WORK.

Considering that New Haven is a Democratic town and that this is an off year the Republicans did well enough yesterday. They elected four selectmen, and though Mr. Baldwin did not have the largest number of votes he will be town agent, as he was named for first selectman on the ticket.

In city matters the Republicans have quite as much cause for joy as in the town contest, and perhaps more, for the fight against them there was fiercer and more complicated. The chief interest was, of course, felt in the fate of Mr. Ullman, the candidate for Police commissioner. He was triumphantly elected, as he deserved to be. He will make a good commissioner, and will act sensibly and uprightly.

The Republicans lost a few councilmen and held their own in the aldermanic contests. They will therefore have a majority on joint ballot and will be able to elect the assistant city clerk and the sealer of weights and measures.

There are threats of contest and legal, or illegal, attempts to nullify the will of the voters. But in fairness, and in consideration of the mistakes made by both sides in their tickets, it will be reasonable if there is no further squabbling.

The election of Mr. Clancey was a triumph for Mr. Clancey and pure Democracy.

And, by the way, how about the rise of the Hon. James H. Macdonald?

THE MESSAGE.

The President's message is as long as usual, but it is not as dry as some of his messages have been.

The report that the President had turned "jingo" and would in his message make things hot for foreign rulers does not appear to have been true. He does, however, say that Great Britain has been told in the Venezuelan matter that the traditional and established policy of this government is firmly opposed to a forcible increase by any European power of its territorial possessions on this continent; that this policy is as well founded in principles as it is strongly supported by numerous precedents; that as a consequence the United States is bound to protest against the enlargement of the area of British Guiana in derogation of the rights and against the will of Venezuela.

Some said that the President was going to let himself loose on the Cuban situation. He treats that matter carefully and quietly, but he does not hesitate to say that whatever may be the traditional sympathy of our countrymen as individuals with a people who seem to be struggling for larger autonomy and greater freedom, deepened as such sympathy must be in behalf of our neighbors, yet the plain duty of this government is to observe in good faith the recognized obligations of international relationship. And he adds that the performance of this duty should not be made more difficult by a disregard on the part of our citizens of the obligations growing out of their allegiance to their country, which should restrain them from violating as individuals the neutrality which the nation of which they are members is bound to observe in its relations to friendly sovereign states. This is both true and sensible.

The President advocates "official residences" for the ambassadors and ministers of this country at foreign courts. There is no doubt that they need a little more style in order to keep up with the procession, and it may benefit the country if they are allowed to have it.

The strongest and most interesting part of the message is that which relates to the financial condition of the country. The President handles this matter boldly and forcibly. He says he is convinced that the only thorough and practical remedy for our troubles is found in the retirement and cancellation of our United States notes, commonly called greenbacks, and the outstanding treasury notes issued by the government in payment of silver purchases under the act of 1890. He believes that this could be quite readily accomplished by the exchange of these notes for United States long-term bonds of small as well as large denominations, bearing a low rate of interest. He evidently thinks there is still a silver question, for he has much to say about it. And he well says that an attempt to carry out the silver scheme would be the signal for the complete departure of gold from our circulation, the immediate and large contraction of our circulating medium, and a shrinkage in the real value and monetary efficiency of all other forms of currency as they settled to the level of silver monometallism. Every one who receives a fixed salary and every worker for wages would find the dollar in his hand ruthlessly soaked down to the point of bitter disappointment if not to pinching privation.

We do not find in the message any elaborate and powerful defense of the tariff for deficit, nor do we discover anything of a farewell nature.

FASHION NOTES.

Tam Effects in Plaided Velvet.

Winter millinery comprises hats of all sizes and shapes, and the display of fashionable headgear was never more varied. Tam O'Shanter and effects that suggest tams are plentiful. The former are much seen in velvet, there seeming to be an especial craze for tams of plaid velvet. Some of these little affairs are hardly more than puffs of velvet set away at one side of the top of the head, with a cluster of drooping feathers restoring balance. Many of the caps are rather Henry VIII. caps than the tam, but they are all becoming, and when matched to the rest of the costume, they are, as they are in many instances, to the gown itself, the effect is most happy. It is unpleasant to see such a cap worn over any but a fresh face of some pliancy of color and expression.

The tam effects enter into many of the prettiest of the picture effects, coming usually in a soft crown. This crown is pushed up, that a bunch of graceful plumes may be caught under on one side, and that is all, but the hat

is at once becoming and quite in mode. Such crowns are applied to some of the biggest sizes, but in the large, round black felt hat that the artist sketches here, there is a stiff moderately high crown and a wide brim turned up in back and faced with black velvet, the velvet coming well over the edge on top. A series of violet satin ribbon loops are placed on the edge, start from a large bow on the left side and extend from there to either side. An upright loop or two rises in the back toward the right side, and at the left a white pompon with full aigrette completes the trimming.

Little mob bonnets are made of several knots of black velvet that stand up perkily at the back and of the parting of the hair, and from under them two wings of lace come softly forward and downward till they almost reach the tops of the ears. The lace makes a little stand up, frilling just in front of the velvet, and at the back two ends of it hang prettily against the hair. The general effect is as dainty as can be, and it makes a young face positively infantile, but somehow the effect is not nearly as good in color as it is in black and white.

MUSIC.

"Papa gave me two pennies to put in the plate in church." "Do you know who those pennies were for?" "Course I do; for the organ man. I heard the music."—Life.

She-I should think you would get yourself into trouble by being engaged to two girls at the same time.

He-I did. One of them thinks her ring isn't so handsome as the other's.—Town Topics.

McSwatters—I always said that Jago would come to the front.

McSwitters—What, that worthless fellow?

McSwatters—Yep. He's a bellboy in a hotel now.—Syracuse Post.

Customer—Can't you wait upon me? I've been here for nearly an hour. Two pounds of liver, please. Butcher—Sorry, but there's three or four ahead of you. Surely, you don't want your liver out of order?—San Francisco Chronicle.

"I think I felt meaner from stealing a watermelon than from anything else I ever did." "Pshaw, that was nothing." "Wasn't it? I crawled 200 yards with that 40-pound melon, and when I cut it it was as green as grass!"—Chicago Record.

Bronsonhurst—As you are living out in the suburbs, I wish you would tell me something about chickens. What kind of food do they like best? Howson Lett—Mine seem to prefer the flower seeds my wife planted in the garden.—Judge.

Pennine Auditor (at the amateur theatricals) I beg pardon, but do you know it seems to me the gentleman who has the leading part does his love-making in a very tame and spiritless manner? Wife of leading actor (intently watching the performance)—He won't put any more spirit in it while I've got my eye on him, madam, let me tell you.—New York Dispatch.

Judge (to plaintiff)—You accuse the prisoner of having stolen your pocket handkerchief? Plaintiff—Yes, your honor, and the proof is that here is another exactly resembling it. Judge—That is no proof. My handkerchief is just like yours. Plaintiff (with the air of a man convinced)—That's very likely; two were stolen from me.—Happy Days.

It is said there is a voter living near Hagerstown known as "Old Uncle Zeb." He does not decide who to vote for until he has met the representatives of each candidate and had a conference.



A local Hurst politician met Old Uncle Zeb the other day and said: "Well, Uncle Zeb, who are you going to vote for?" "I need a double-barreled shotgun might as well. I can't vote for a single shot."—Baltimore News.

MONKEYING WITH MATCHES.

A Simian Resident of Philadelphia Who Finds Pleasure in the Pastime.

(From the Philadelphia Evening Telegraph.)

The Philadelphia Zoological Garden contains no more attractive department for juvenile visitors, and some older ones as well, than the monkey house, and the queer antics and never-ending activity of the bright little creatures have always an interested group of spectators. Many of these spectators, and the boys in particular, are not always content to simply watch, but will from time to time push various things through the bars and nettings, in hopes of thereby causing some new antic or monkey trick to the delight of themselves and others. Such conduct is, of course, contrary to the rules, but if a keeper is not near at hand there is always some one who will show it. Sticks, stones, fruit, candy, nuts, tobacco and similar small things are among those frequently inserted in the cages.

By reason of the fact that almost every man carries matches, these are among the things most commonly offered. Of course, a match would be a thing most objectionable for a monkey to have, by reason of the liability of fire.

The monkeys are always on the lookout for something sweet to eat. Anything offered them goes almost directly into their mouths. If they do not find it palatable, their next manoeuvre is to break it or swallow it on the bars or floor of the cage or on the water kettle. By reason of this tendency many matches have been lighted by the monkeys, and the boys were not long in discovering that one of the animals possessed a greater faculty than his fellows for lighting matches. Indeed, he became so expert about it as to attract the attention of Professor E. D. Cope, who witnessed his trick, and has, therefore, been watched and experimented upon in this line to quite an extent.

The animal is a Cebus appella, a native of South America, and from the readiness with which this species learn to do little tricks is the monkey commonly used by hand organ grinders to collect pennies. The result of these experiments caused the insertion of a paragraph in the American Naturalist, stating the animal's ability with matches, and a reporter visited the Gardens to witness the act for himself. Jacko has "tumbled" to the fact that a match is a match, and proceeds accordingly. When one is given him he can determine which end has the fulminate, he seems to do this by sight, but, like a child always on the lookout for something sweet, gives an article the test of putting it in his mouth, as the taste is more acute in children than in adults. Jacko generally ends by putting the fulminate in his mouth, if he has not done so at first.

He is so accurate in determining the fulminate that a failure is very rare indeed. Then, seizing the match near the head, he draws it quickly across the rough side of the water kettle, and the trick is done. He always takes the match at the proper distance from the head to avoid breakage. As soon as the match is lighted all his interests are at an end, and he drops it immediately. This total indifference as to the destination of the lighted match is what the authorities of the "Zoo" object to, and Jacko will shortly find himself in a new location in consequence.

The Cebus sometimes fails to ignite the match in his first or even second attempt, by reason of having held it in his mouth so long as to dampen the fulminate; in such case he gives it careful scrutiny and deep thought. If he cannot light the match then, he seems to consider it as begun, breaks it over the edge of the kettle on a bar of the cage, and speedily proceeds to pursue some other characteristic activity of his daily life. Once in a while he fails to select a rough surface for the first trial, and therefore fails in the attempt; he seems to have learned to try, try again, however, and is usually more successful next time.

Superintendent Brown says that since Jacko's experiment in lighting matches has become public, it will be necessary to remove him from his present quarters, for fear that sooner or later he will set fire to the building and cause its destruction, together with himself and fellows. Besides, the little fellow shows so much imitative powers that he desires to further test his capabilities, and believes that he may be able to teach him to smoke a pipe. Owing to their apparent superior intelligence, Superintendent Brown has always taken a great amount of interest in observing the actions of the members of the Cebus family, and relates many interesting incidents of them. One in particular is that of a monkey owned by a hand organ grinder, the animal had come to know the business so well that it was not restrained by a cord or chain, and collected pennies wherever it thought it could get them. An experiment was made of giving him a small tin cup, and that intelligent simian at once proceeded to "pass the plate" around among his brethren, but got peanut shells only.

Mr. Brown says that this monkey would climb into a window of the Philadelphia club on Walnut street, go from one room to another to the back of the building, carrying a tin cup and soliciting pennies from all present. On his return to the front of the building from this trip, he rarely endeavored to collect money; if ever, chiefly from those who were noticing and watching him. He then passed out through the window, climbed down the water pipe, and went away with his master, to reappear and repeat the business visit at some future day.

VAGARIES OF THE MEMORY.

The case of the woman who has been found at Brighton suffering from, it is said, an absolute inability to recollect her own name or any of the events of her life, is by no means so rare as some of the newspapers seem to imagine. The woman many have heard of, but many genuine cases of the kind are known. Complete loss of the memory is a well known disease, and very curious examples of it are on record. Dr.

Gowers had a patient, a clergyman, who had completely forgotten the events of twenty years of his life. No amount of argument could convince him that his age was really sixty years, or that he had done thirty years' clerical work. He obstinately maintained that he was only forty and that he had been only ten years in the ministry. The perplexities attending his delusion can be imagined. Some of his children, for instance, would probably be over thirty years of age, which would necessitate his having been married at the age of ten. His schoolfellows, if he should meet them, would appear to have grown old at a tremendous pace; he could hardly understand why he had married a woman so much older than himself, or, altogether, his position must have been one not to be envied.

Another doctor describes the case of a woman who had forgotten that she had been married, and who obstinately refused to live with her husband. One old gentleman while in familiar surroundings had a perfect memory for faces, but when in a strange place could not recognize his own wife. This is a very common form of disease in the aged, and so affects them that they cannot recognize their most intimate acquaintances.

Usually the loss is gradual, and comes on as a consequence of progressive changes in the brain. But often it is as sudden as the Brighton case and may arise from a multitude of causes—the bursting of a blood vessel, for instance, or an attack of epilepsy, or a blow on the head, or even a severe fit of anger or grief, or fright, or a fainting fit, or exposure to extreme cold, or any kind of overpowering mental excitement.

Old men who search for the spectacles they are wearing are very numerous, and no one is more than amused by them. But there are inexplicable and often terrifying cases. Men have been known to leave home for a few days, commit some serious crime and return quite oblivious of what they had done. Very interesting is the case, so common among soldiers who have fought a battle, and who, when it is over, cannot recall the events for several hours. The same thing happens to those who have escaped from shipwreck and to aeronauts who have just descended from the clouds. This is the temporary loss due to strong emotion. Then there are curious examples of temporary loss of memory owing to fatigue. Sir Henry Holland, when down a mine in the Harz mountains and suffering from fatigue, completely forgot his German and could not remember a word of it until he had rest and refreshment after ascending. We all experience this in a less degree. Sometimes it is an injury which causes a blank in the backward gaze. An English professor once received a violent blow on the head, and at once forgot all his Greek, and a musician lost all memory of music from the same cause. Mr. Whympy, in his book on the Alps, tells how he fell over a frightful precipice 200 feet high, with the result that his past was for a time wholly blotted out of his memory.

The most singular cases of memory-loss are in connection with language. It is quite common in our hospitals to see a sick German unable to speak a word of the English he had thoroughly mastered. A very singular instance of this is reported from New York. Many years ago A. Scandell died in a hospital in that city. When first admitted he could speak only in English; as the illness progressed he forgot that language, and could now only converse in French; but on the day of his death another change occurred, and he could speak nothing but his own language—Italian. Many varieties of this loss of memory of words exist. A clergyman some time ago lost all recollection of words, but he could still remember the letters of which they were composed, and could express his ideas freely by spelling the words. An officer suffered from a slight attack of apoplexy, and, as a result, forgot all but a very few words. When he tried to speak he merely uttered nonsense; but if a book or manuscript were handed to him he read it with perfect propriety. One of the most extraordinary of all memory losses is when a person forgets how to write with his right hand, but still has the power to do so with his left hand. In such case, after he has written with his left hand the desired sentence, he can copy it with his right hand.

When the memory of words is gradually lost it invariably progresses in one particular order. First the proper names go, then the common nouns, then adjectives; and this stage is followed by failure of the power to recollect events. Very many people suffer from the first degree—excessive smokers, for instance,

IN

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"Willie," said the boy's interesting uncle, "I hope you take pains with your lessons in school."

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